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Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AS-01 /058 W
----------004997 300911Z /23
R 300738Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1790

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, RP
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS

REF: MANILA 9865

1. ON JUNE 29, 1977, PRESIDENT MARCOS ORDERED RELEASE OF AN ADDITIONAL 500 DETAINEES. ACCORDING TO INFOSEC TATAD, LIST STILL BEING FINALIZED. AS YET WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW MANY OF THE RELEASED HAVE BEEN DETAINED FOR "SECURITY" REASONS.

2. AS INDICATED PARA 3 REFTEL, EMBOFF MET WITH MEMBER OF AMRSP DETAINEES COMMITTEE JUNE 27. HE SAID NONE OF THOSE RELEASED IN FIRST GROUP OF 500 WERE "REALLY POLITICAL PRISONERS." PHILIPPINE CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OFFICIAL (AND AQUINO LAWYER) ARROYO TOLD EMBOFF SAME THING. AMRSP SOUCE, HOWEVER, REPORTED THAT AMONG PROMINENT DETAINEES RELEASED RECENTLY WERE MARIA ELENA ANG (TORTURE VICITIM INTERVIEWED BY JOHN SALZBERG OF HIRC IN APRIL) AND JOSEFINA HILAO. SOURCE PROVIDED EMBOFF LATEST AMRSP DATA ON TORTURE AND DETAINEES WHICH POUCHED EA/PHL.

3. ON 1048) 29, DEFENSE UNDERSECRETARY BARBERO ORDERED ARREST OF PC LIEUTENANT IN DAVAO FOR ALLEGED
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MALTREATMENT OF DETAINEES. REPORTEDLY, BARBERO IS ALSO INVESTIGATING PARTICIPATION OF THREE OTHER PC SOLDIERS IN TORTURE IN DAVAO STOCKADE.

4. HERRERA CASE - COURT-MARTIAL OF TWO OFFICERS (LIEUTENANTS MATILLANO AND REGIS) BEGAN JUNE 29. MRS. HERRERA TESTIFIED. BOTH OFFICERS PLEASED NOT GUILITY. SENATOR RODRIGO PROVIDED

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EMBOFF COPY OF LETTER DATED JUNE 27 TO GENERAL ZAFRA INL
WHICH MRS. HERRERA REQUESTS THAT STEPS BE TAKEN TO IDENTIFY
OTHER TWO MEN WHO INTERROGATED HER ALONG WITH MATILLANO.
SHE POINTS OUT THAT LEIUTENANT REGIS IS BEING COURT-MARTIALED
FOR HAVING THROWN CRUMPLED EMPTY CIGARETTE PACK AT HER,
WHILE "JOHN DOE" WHO ACTUALLY PARTICIPATED IN ELECTRIC SHOCK
TORTURE IS STILL UNIDENTIFIED AND AT LARGE.

5. ALL OF THESE HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS HAVE RCEIVED
FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE IN MANILA PRESS.
STULL

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 30-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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